

INFORMATION LETTER

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NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION

For Members
Only

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February 13, 1937

AGRICULTURAL LEGISLATION

Leaders of Farm Organization Recommend Amendment of Marketing Agreement Provisions

Recommendations on principles which should underlie agricultural legislation during the present session of Congress were adopted by the national conference of farm leaders which met on the call of Secretary Wallace in Washington on February 8th and 9th.

Among the recommendations was one that the marketing agreement provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act be reenacted and amended to strengthen the Act and include additional crops. The nature of the amendments that might be made, or the additional crops to be included, were not specified in the recommendation. According to present provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, the sections permitting the Secretary of Agriculture to impose marketing agreements and production control plans are applicable to only two canning crops—olives and asparagus.

The fourteen recommendations approved by the conference are as follows:

"1. The ever-normal granary program as outlined by the Secretary at the opening of this conference for the protection of the consuming public and for providing producers with a reservoir in which can be retained seasonal surpluses, meets with the most enthusiastic support and approval of your Committee. Legislation is recommended by your Committee providing for the use of commodity credit loans as the operating device necessary for the successful and effective operation of the ever-normal granary.

"In determining the price bases upon which loans will be made in connection with the ever-normal granary, it must be recognized that accumulating surpluses depress price and create a ceiling above which prices of commodities cannot rise. Therefore it is imperative that the loans be made at the uppermost level to keep prices from declining below parity levels, to the full extent possible consistent with the dependence of the commodity upon export markets.

"2. That the formulation and administration of the ever-normal granary program be carried on through permanently established governmental agencies or corporations rather than through any federal agencies now existing which are of a temporary and emergency character.

"3. That the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act be amended providing for the postponement to January 1, 1940, as the date when administration and consent shall be had by the States.

"4. In the administration of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act during the interim period of Federal administration and thereafter, to avoid ultimate bureaucratic and political influence, local agencies and associations of farmers must be considered as the necessary and proper agencies to carry out the coordinated program.

"5. That the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act be amended so that, during the period of time in which

the administration of such Act within the State is carried on and directed by the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Agriculture have the specific authority and direction to consider the declared policy of the Congress as set forth in Section 7 (a), subnumber 5, which declared policy of the Congress is as follows:

"(5) reestablishment, at as rapid a rate as the Secretary of Agriculture determines to be practicable and in the general public interest, of the ratio between the purchasing power of the net income per person on farms and that of the income per person not on farms that prevailed during the five year period August 1909-July 1914, inclusive, as determined from statistics available in the United States Department of Agriculture, and the maintenance of such ratio."

"NOTE: The purchasing power yardstick here described may prove inadequate to assure parity of price and income for farmers under present conditions. In such event, the yardstick should be appropriately modified.

"6. That present provisions of law be amended, or new legislation adopted, that would make possible the use of benefit payments to effect diversion in production when the ever-normal granary program is found in any year to be insufficient to keep production in line with effective demand

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LABELING IN CANADA

Net Weight Statement Is Required by Regulation Recently Issued

An order issued December 22, 1936, by the Canadian Department of Agriculture requires an indication of the net weight of contents on all new labels for canned fruits and vegetables purchased after January 1, 1937, according to a report of January 28 from the assistant commercial attache at Ottawa.

The new ruling applies to semisolids as well as to solids, so that it is no longer necessary to show the drained weight. The net weight must be shown in type not less than $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch in height for containers of 4 pounds or less. Containers of more than 4 pounds must be marked in type not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in height, e.g., "Net weight 6 lbs. 4 ozs."

Labels for liquids, such as tomato juice and fruit juices, must be marked in fluid ounces in type not less than $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch for containers of 100 fluid ounces or less, and in type not less than $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in height for containers of more than 100 fluid ounces, e.g., "Contents 108 fluid ounces," or "Contents 20 fl. oz." (Imperial gallon—1.2009 United States gallon—equals 160 imperial fluid ounces.)

Present supplies of labels for standard containers as provided in section 19 of the Meat and Canned Foods Regulations will be acceptable until December 31, 1937, without declaration of net weight.

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and protect the income of the producer; that in addition to the use of benefit payments to effect such diversion, every possible effort be made to find a sound plan to supplement the ever-normal-granary, and the use of additional benefit payments for diversion of crops, and wherein the taxing power of the Federal government be used in such direction, or other sanctions of law including the licensing of handlers.

"7. That the existing program of the Federal government be enlarged and expanded, wherein the sub-marginal lands of the country would be brought back into the public domain, and that the utilization of such sub-marginal land so withdrawn be directed in such manner as to restore natural resources, minimize the dangers of floods, control erosion and provide additional national parks, forests and wild life refuges. Such a program should be extended over a substantial number of years so that the local tax system would not be unduly disturbed and wherein the families now living on such lands could gradually move to better land offering greater opportunities. We further insist that forestry, conservation and all land-use problems be retained in the Department of Agriculture which alone makes possible a continued and integrated program.

"8. That the marketing agreement provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act be reenacted and amended to strengthen the Act and include additional crops.

"9. That the principle of an actuarially sound crop insurance program be endorsed.

"10. That Sections 22 and 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act be retained with a continuing authority in the hands of the Secretary of Agriculture to use the powers and funds authorized under these sections to support price levels in emergency situations and to move crop purchases under such authority into areas of under-consumption and into the export market and to aid in orderly marketing. That any unexpended balance in the Treasury arising under Section 32 at the end of a fiscal year be covered into the Commodity Credit Corporation or its successor.

"11. That legislation be adopted authorizing existing agencies related to agriculture, or a new agency under the supervision of such existing agencies, to encourage more general holding of farm units by owner-operators.

"12. That in the development of all of these programs encouragement be given to associations of producers not only in the soil conservation program and the ever-normal granary program, but also in the distribution and handling of such crops affected by such programs.

"13. That a system of Federally controlled and regulated warehouses and terminal market facilities be established.

"14. That Federal legislation be enacted to provide grades, standards and inspection in interstate commerce for basic and non-basic crops, not presently covered by adequate legislation."

WHAT'S DOING IN CONGRESS**House Acts on Voluntary Retirement of Supreme Court Justices—Other Measures Pending**

Adoption of the conference report on the first deficiency bill providing funds for relief work, approval by the House of the bill to provide for voluntary retirement of justices of the Supreme Court and of the joint resolution to extend the President's authority to negotiate reciprocal trade agree-

ments, and passage by the Senate of bills to authorize purchase of surplus fish by the A.A.A. and to extend the period during which direct U. S. obligations may be used as collateral security for issuance of Federal Reserve notes were the chief events in Congress during the past week.

The President signed on Thursday a bill creating a Disaster Loan Corporation which will make loans during 1937 to flood sufferers who are unable to meet collateral requirements of other Government and private lending agencies. The corporation will be a subsidiary of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and will receive its capital from that source. No new funds are appropriated in the Act. The measure was introduced by Senators Barkley of Kentucky and Bulkley of Ohio, received favorable Senate and House action and was signed by the President all on the same day.

After two hours of debate the House on Wednesday, February 10th, passed by a vote of 315 to 75 the bill introduced by Chairman Sumners of the Judiciary Committee permitting voluntary retirement of Supreme Court justices at the age of 70. Another bill, which the House Judiciary Committee has had under consideration for some time and which is in line with the President's message recommending judicial reform, has been reported favorably by the Committee. It would permit the Attorney General to intervene in actions in lower courts where the constitutionality of legislation is challenged.

On Monday the House and Senate adopted the conference report on the first deficiency bill appropriating \$933,000,000 for relief and other purposes. The President approved the bill the following day.

After several days of debate the House passed on Tuesday the joint resolution to extend for three years the President's authority to negotiate reciprocal trade agreements. The measure is now before the Senate Finance Committee.

On Wednesday, the Senate passed S. 1258, which would authorize the purchase of surplus fish, including shellfish, by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration for relief distribution through the Surplus Commodities Corporation. The Committee report recommending the bill's passage states that "the present situation in regard to fish is depressing, due to the fact that a mild winter has prevented the shipping of 25,000,000 pounds of fish which has been frozen. . . . As a matter of fact, if this surplus is not moved, at least one complete year of operations of the fisheries will be disastrous and hundreds of boats will be unable to operate."

A companion bill (H.R.3913) is pending in the House. Another surplus fish purchase bill (H.R.4288) came up for hearing before the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries on Thursday. It would appropriate \$250,000 to the Surplus Commodities Corporation for the diversion of surplus fish into relief channels.

The Senate also approved the bill (S. 417) to extend until June 30, 1939, the period during which direct obligations of the United States may be used as collateral security for the issuance of Federal Reserve notes.

New Bills Introduced

A bill (S. 1304) has been introduced by Senator Gillette of Iowa to provide for a survey and classification of the soil resources of the United States, for a system of soil conservation, for an ever-normal granary, for commodity loans, for

disposal of excess production of agricultural products, and for the regulation of imports of farm products.

Representative Maverick of Texas has introduced a companion bill (H. R. 4410) in the House, which contains an added section limiting to the Supreme Court jurisdiction in any constitutional issue arising from the Act and requiring the concurrence of at least seven justices of the Supreme Court in a decision holding it unconstitutional. These two bills do not follow the recommendations of the conference of farm leaders held in Washington on Monday and Tuesday and reported elsewhere in the INFORMATION LETTER.

The chief features of the Administration's crop insurance program, as embodied in a bill (S. 1397) introduced by Senator Pope of Idaho, are also reported elsewhere in the INFORMATION LETTER.

In his statement before the conference of farm leaders the Secretary of Agriculture endorsed in its entirety the bill (H. R. 3687) by Chairman Jones of the House Committee on Agriculture to extend until January 1, 1942, the State-aid provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act.

Senator Overton of Louisiana introduced on February 8 a bill (S. 1428) fixing sugar quotas and establishing a maximum for domestic production of sugar at one-third the domestic consumption.

Committee Hearings

Committee hearings on various government department appropriations, and on farm tenancy, neutrality, long-and-short haul, civil service classification, and war profits legislation were in progress during the week.

The Senate Finance Committee began hearings on the reciprocal trade agreements extension resolution, and the Committee on Education and Labor submitted to the Senate a preliminary report (Senate Report No. 46) of the investigations being conducted by the La Follette subcommittee on violations of the right of free speech and assembly and interference with the rights of labor to organize and bargain collectively. Later in the week the Committee heard testimony on a bill which would authorize a \$100,000,000 Federal aid program for education.

Hearings on the O'Mahoney corporation licensing bill have been deferred by the Judiciary subcommittee since the receipt of the judicial reform message of the President. The subcommittee had intended to hear Federal Trade Commission officials on February 8. The full Committee plan an executive session on February 15 to consider the President's bill (S.1392) for judicial reform, which was introduced by Chairman Ashurst on February 8.

The House Flood Control Committee has adopted a resolution requesting the Army Engineer to submit comprehensive plans to prevent a recurrence of the recent flood. No action will be taken by the Committee until the reports are at hand.

CROP INSURANCE

Senate Bill Embodying Recommendations of President's Committee Introduced

A bill incorporating the recommendations of the President's committee on crop insurance was introduced in the Senate on Monday, February 8, by Senator Pope (Idaho).

The measure would create a Federal Crop Insurance Corporation with a capital of \$100,000,000 appropriated from the Treasury, with offices in Washington, and with management vested in a board of directors composed of three employees of the Department of Agriculture, who would be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and would be subject to his general supervision. A manager selected by the Board would be the executive officer charged with the administration of the corporation.

To carry out the purposes of the proposed Act the corporation would be authorized and empowered:

(a) Commencing with the wheat crop planted for harvest in 1938, to insure, upon such terms and conditions not inconsistent with the provisions of this Act as it may determine, producers of wheat against loss in yields of wheat due to drought, flood, hail, wind, tornado, insect infestation, plant disease, and such other causes as may be determined by the Board. Such insurance shall not cover losses due to the neglect or malfeasance of the producer. Such insurance shall cover a percentage, to be determined by the Board, of the recorded or appraised average yield of wheat on the insured farm for a representative base period subject to such adjustments as the Board may prescribe to the end that the average yields fixed for farms in the same area which are subject to the same conditions may be fair and just. The Board may condition the issuance of such insurance in any county or area upon a minimum amount of participation in a program of crop insurance formulated pursuant to this Act.

(b) To fix premiums for such insurance, payable either in wheat or cash equivalent as of the due date thereof, on the basis of the recorded or appraised average crop loss of wheat on the insured farm for a representative base period subject to such adjustments as the Board may prescribe to the end that the premiums fixed for farms in the same area, which are subject to the same conditions, may be fair and just. Such premiums shall be collected at such time or times, in such manner, and upon such security as the Board may determine.

(c) To adjust and pay claims for losses either in wheat or in cash equivalent under rules prescribed by the Board. In the event that any claim for indemnity under the provisions of this Act is denied by the Corporation an action on such claim may be brought against the Corporation in the district court of the United States in and for the district in which the insured farm is located, and exclusive jurisdiction is hereby conferred upon such courts to determine such controversies without regard to the amount in controversy: *Provided*, That no suit on such claim shall be allowed under this section unless the same shall have been brought within one year after the date when notice of denial of the claim is mailed to the claimant.

(d) From time to time, in such manner and through such agencies as the Board may determine, to purchase, handle, store, insure, provide storage facilities for, and sell wheat, and pay any expenses incidental thereto, it being the intent of this provision, however, that, insofar as practicable, the Corporation shall purchase wheat only at the rate and to a total amount equal to the payment of premiums in cash by farmers or to replace wheat sold to prevent deterioration; and shall sell wheat only to the extent necessary to cover payments of indemnities and to prevent deterioration. Wheat acquired under the provisions of this Act shall be kept in federally bonded or State licensed warehouses or in such other manner as the Board determines will adequately protect the interests of the Corporation and the producers insured.

The bill also authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to

appoint an advisory committee of five members experienced in agricultural pursuits to advise the corporation with respect to carrying out the purposes of the legislation.

As recommended by the President's committee, the Pope bill would limit the insurance plan at the outset to wheat. Other bills, previously introduced, provide for coverage on other major crops.

CROP REPORT SCHEDULE

Government Bureau Announces Dates for Its Reports on Canning Crops

The U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics has announced its program of reports on canning crops for 1937. In addition to the reports listed in the following table, condition reports will be made as of the 1st and 5th of each month.

Crop	Intended acreage	Planted acreage	Crop forecast
Asparagus.....		Nov. 12	Mar. 12
Beans, green lima.....	May 12	July 13	Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 13
Beans, snap.....	Apr. 13	June 24	July 13 July 23 Aug. 12 Aug. 25 Sept. 13
Beets.....	Apr. 23	July 13	Sept. 23 Oct. 13
Cabbage for kraut.....	Apr. 23	July 13	Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 13
Corn, sweet.....	Apr. 13	July 13	Aug. 12 Aug. 25 Sept. 13 Sept. 23
Cucumbers for pickles.....	Apr. 23	July 13	Sept. 13 Sept. 23
Peas, green.....	Mar. 12	May 24	June 24 July 13 July 23
Pimientos.....		June 14	Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 13
Spinach.....	Jan. 12	Mar. 12	Mar. 12
Tomatoes.....	Apr. 23	July 13	Aug. 12 Aug. 25 Sept. 13 Sept. 23 Oct. 13

Canners League Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Canners League of California will be held at Del Monte, opening on March 4th and ending with a banquet on the evening of March 6th.

"Romance of the Tin Can"

The February Issue of "Modern Mechanix," published at Louisville, Ky., contains an interesting illustrated article entitled "Romance of the Tin Can" written by Nelson H. Budd, who is known to many members of the canning industry through his association for some years with the Canning Age. The article, besides telling the story of the development of the tin can and describing in some detail the processes of its manufacture, reviews many of the important points in the history of the canning industry.

Department Store Sales in January

Department store sales showed about the usual seasonal decrease from December to January and the Federal Reserve Board's adjusted index continued at the level of the two preceding months. Total sales in January were 11 per cent larger than in the corresponding month last year, with the most marked increase in the Chicago district.

Fruit and Vegetable Market Competition

Carlot Shipments as Reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Department of Agriculture

	Week ending—			Season total to—	
	Feb. 6 1936	Feb. 6 1937	Jan. 30 1937	Feb. 6 1936	Feb. 6 1937
VEGETABLES					
Beans, snap and lima	219	174	261	2,612	4,219
Tomatoes.....	232	375	345	2,391	2,864
Green peas.....	160	46	44	697	607
Spinach.....	371	398	279	3,314	3,658
Others:					
Domestic, competing directly....	4,135	3,777	4,041	63,827	70,851
Imports competing—					
Directly.....	51	34	32	306	277
Indirectly.....	63	60	65	1,335	1,156
FRUITS					
Citrus, domestic....	2,970	4,156	4,292	45,633	59,554
Imports.....	5	0	1	367	95
Others, domestic....	139	129	218	16,791	21,139

Indexes Relating to Sale of Canned Foods

The following indexes taken from the published reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate the recent changes in wholesale and retail prices. For retail prices they are based on the average for 1923-25 as 100 per cent, while for wholesale prices 1926 is taken as 100 per cent.

	Wholesale prices				
	Jan. 30 1937	Jan. 23 1937	Jan. 16 1937	Jan. 9 1936	Feb. 1 1936
All commodities....	85.4	85.3	85.7	85.2	80.5
All foods.....	86.9	86.7	87.3	86.7	83.2

	Retail prices			
	Jan. 12 1937	Dec. 15 1936	Nov. 17 1936	Jan. 14 1936
All foods.....	84.6	82.9	82.5	81.7
Fresh fruits and vegetables.	73.7	67.6	64.5	61.5
Canned fruits and vegetables	81.8	81.6	81.5	79.4

Report on Raw Products Research Mailed

The report of the Raw Products Research Bureau, which is being mailed to members of the Association this week, contains a brief review of observations made by the Director of the Bureau during the field work in 1936, and indicates the scope of the raw products work and the nature of the problems encountered. There is also included in the report a list of recent publications issued by agricultural experiment stations, government bureaus, and articles appearing in scientific journals, with brief descriptive summaries of the data included in them. Publications of especial interest to canners' field men are identified.

Additional copies of the report are available so that each field man or representative of a canner who is working with growers and in touch with their production problems may have a copy on request.

Search for Yellows Resistant Cabbage

Although cabbage yellows is not ordinarily a serious menace in all sections of New York State, in hot dry seasons losses from this disease may run as high as 90 per cent on heavily infested soils, according to a statement appearing in the current issue of "Farm Research," quarterly magazine of the Experiment Station at Geneva. All of the yellows-resistant types now available for use in regions where this disease is prevalent do not meet the market demands of New York markets, and tests are to be started by the experiment station this spring to find strains which are resistant to yellows and at the same time acceptable to the grower and the market.

Utah Canners to Meet in Ogden

The twenty-seventh annual convention of the Utah Canners Association will be held in Ogden on February 26th and 27th.

Finds Advantages in Granulated Fertilizers

Comparisons of pulverized and granulated fertilizers, applied broadcast and in bands on tomatoes, were made by Prof. C. B. Sayre of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva last year. The results secured indicate that fertilizers in granulated or pelleted form pass through the drill more easily, are less rapidly dissolved, and increase yields. It is pointed out that data are available from only one year's trials but they are sufficiently promising to merit further and more extensive experiments the coming season.

Kraut and Pickle Packers Conference

A conference designed to give packers of kraut and pickles, their plant managers and field men an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the most recent developments in the production, salting and processing of cucumbers and cabbage will be held at Michigan State College, East Lansing, February 24 to 26.

Frozen and Preserved Fruits in Cold Storage

The following table shows the holding of fruits in cold storage reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as of February 1st, also a comparison with last year and with a five-year average:

	February 1, 1937	February 1, 1936	Five-year average
Apples:			
Barrels.....	174,000	637,000	778,000
Boxes.....	9,205,000	12,944,000	11,279,000
Bushels.....	7,623,000	9,820,000	7,469,000
Pears:			
Boxes—			
Bartlett.....	34,000	40,000
Others.....	378,000	650,000	577,000
Baskets.....	22,000	15,000	50,000
Frozen and preserved fruits (pounds).....	62,086,000	75,463,000	69,636,000

CANNED FOODS FOR FLOOD RELIEF

Over 8,000 Cases Shipped in Addition to Many Local Contributions

A total of 8,243 cases of canned foods had been contributed by canners and shipped to the flood-stricken districts up to Friday, February 12. This does not represent the total contributions made by canners, but merely the total accounted for to date by the National Canners Association's Committee on Flood Relief. A number of States have not completed their contributions and some of them, especially those adjacent to the flood districts, have not completed the tabulation of the contributions shipped to date.

Contributions from the following States are included in the total mentioned: New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Louisiana, California, Washington, and Oregon.

Most of the contributions handled by the Flood Relief Committee have been assembled by the secretaries of the State canners associations and reported to the secretary of the N. C. A. Flood Relief Committee in Washington, who arranged with the National Headquarters of the Red Cross in Washington, D. C., to issue shipping instructions to the contributing canners. In most instances, these shipping instructions were sent to the local officers of the Red Cross, who in turn sent them to the contributing canners.

In other cases the National Headquarters of the Red Cross issued shipping instructions directly to the canners, with confirmations going to the local officer of the Red Cross. This method of distribution, while it may seem cumbersome, has proved most efficient, as the National Headquarters of the Red Cross is in close touch with all flood-stricken areas at all times, consequently they were in a position to direct shipments each day to the points where food was needed most.

Owing to the fact the railroad's original offer for free transportation was to expire on February 13, the time element was very important. Consequently, in many instances, it seemed desirable to cut corners in the distribution process, and as a result many contributions were turned over to the local chapters of the Red Cross. The primary objective of the Association's Committee on Flood Relief was to get the

canned food to the flood sufferers as quickly as possible. Some time will be required, however, to make a complete check of all the contributions made by the canning industry through the various agencies.

ALASKA FISHERY REGULATIONS

Fisheries Bureau Announces No Changes of Major Importance for 1937 Season

Revised regulations for the protection of the Alaska fisheries were approved by the Secretary of Commerce on February 8th. No changes of major importance have been made in the regulations from last season, according to the Commissioner of Fisheries.

Throughout the Bristol Bay area the operation of stake gill nets on offshore bars and flats covered at high tide is prohibited, and in the Nushagak district commercial fishing has been further restricted by an increase in the distance interval between stake and anchored gill nets and by the reduction of the aggregate length of gill nets permitted on any salmon fishing boat. Additional beach areas have been opened to stake gill nets on Nushagak and Egegik Bays.

In the Kodiak area a Red River weir district has been created, and an adjustment has been made in the boundary of the Karluk area to exclude an outlying section where the bulk of the catch consists of pink salmon. In the Kodiak area, also, set or anchored gill nets must be removed from the water during closed periods; the name of the owner or operator is to appear on power fishing boats; and no salmon fishing boat shall carry or operate more than one seine.

Among the changes which will benefit more especially the small operators are (1) an increase in maximum length of beach seines in the Chignik area, (2) the extension of the fishing season from August 20 to August 25 for gill netters in Lynn Canal, (3) the opening of a small section of Taku Inlet to permit fishing by gill nets during the greater part of September, and (4) the permission to use beach seines in Wrangell Narrows.

Other relaxations include an extension of one day in the fishing season along part of the east coast of Prince of Wales Island, the opening of Mole Harbor and Portage Bay in southeastern Alaska to commercial fishing, and the permission to salmon boats in the Alaska Peninsula area to carry and operate in addition to one purse seine a lead having mesh not less than 8 inches stretched measure.

The restriction on the use of wire spillers on traps throughout Alaska has been removed. There is no increase in the total number of fish trap sites; in fact, one site has been closed.

The herring fishing regulations of southeast Alaska are modified to permit bait fishing in certain waters on the west coast of Admiralty Island, and the crab fishery regulations in southeast Alaska have been made applicable only in the districts where crab fisheries are established.

Clam fishery regulations have been modified to permit an increased take of razor clams to the extent of 3,000 cases more than the limit previously prescribed in the Prince William Sound, Copper River, and Bering River areas combined.

Speech and Report Sent to Members

The address of Judge J. Harry Covington at the opening session of the annual convention and the report of the Committee on Sales Contracts have been mailed to all members of the Association. Additional copies are available upon request.

Cold Storage Holdings of Fishery Products

Cold storage holdings of fishery products in the United States on January 15 were 37 per cent greater than a year ago, and 55 per cent greater than the five-year average, according to the Bureau of Fisheries. Holdings on January 15 amounted to 87,503,000 pounds, compared with 64,031,000 pounds on January 15, 1936, and the five-year average of 56,563,000 pounds, it was stated.

During the month ended January 15, 8,075,000 pounds of fishery products were frozen, compared with 4,840,000 pounds frozen in the corresponding period of 1936.

Trade Agreement with Ecuador Contemplated

The Acting Secretary of State announced on January 6th, 1937, that the United States Government contemplates the negotiation of a trade agreement with Ecuador, and invited interested persons to submit suggestions as to the products that should be considered. When the formal notice is later issued, it will, as heretofore, also indicate dates for the submission of sworn briefs and applications for oral hearings, and the dates on which the customary open hearings will be held.

The Committee on Reciprocity Information has announced that, while continuing as the point of public contact with regard to new agreements announced for negotiation, it is also prepared to receive views or information regarding the operation of trade agreements which have already been concluded with foreign countries, or with reference to any other aspect of the program. Further details can be obtained upon request from the Committee for Reciprocity Information, Seventh and F Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C.

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